Cut down of funds of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4694. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY :
SHRIMATI N. P DURGA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Finance Ministry has cut the funds of "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" meant for the universalization of education programme in every village;

(b) whether the Ministry failed to release money to the States for the purpose in 2002-2003; and

(c) when would all the 65 villages be covered by the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) During the year 2002-2003, Department of Elementary Education and Literacy released Rs. 1569.04 crore for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan against the BE allocation of Rs. 1680 crore.

(c) The programme covers the entire country and addresses the needs of 192 million children in 11 lakh habitations. 8.5 lakh existing primary and upper primary schools and 33 lakh existing teachers would be covered under the scheme.

RBI suggestions on Fiscal Deficit of States

4695. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether voicing concern over deteriorating State finance, the Reserve Bank of India has suggested that State Governments should tax services, fix user charges on the services they offer and move ahead with pension reforms;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have agreed to the RBI's suggestions;

(c) if so, how many States have so far taken legislative and other steps to tax the services as suggested by the RBI; and

(d) to what extent it will be helpful for the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) At present States are not empowered to levy tax on services. Therefore, as an effort to enhance the tax receipts of the States, the Union Government has introduced a Bill in the Lok Sabha *viz.*, "Constitution (95th Amendment Bill) 2003". The proposed constitutional amendment would enable the States to augment their revenue receipts.

In order to supplement the effort of the State Governments towards fiscal consolidation, Government of India (GoI) has created "State Fiscal Reforms Facility (2000-01 to 2004-05)" for incentivising them to undertake fiscal reforms to improve their finances in the medium term, *inter-alia*, aiming at reducing their revenue deficit and gross fiscal deficit over the reform period, by way of improving tax and non-tax receipts and reprioritization of expenditure.

Duty at different levels of production of Crude Oil

†4696. SHRI LAJPAT RAI :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government collects duty, cess, surcharge and royalty at different levels from the production and import of the crude oil to the production of petrol, diesel etc.;

(b) if so, the total amount collected through the said sources during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively; and

(c) the estimate amount during the year 2002-2003 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Statement in respect of duty, cess and surcharge is laid on the Table of the House (*see* below). Information in respect of royalty on crude oil is, at present, not readily available.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.